

CITY COUNCIL CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: DON'T WASTE TAXPAYER MONEY ON NEEDLESS ALA WAI CONSTRUCTION

Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, Hawaii Kai) called upon the Mayor to stop the proposed Ala Wai Boulevard construction project. "With so much private construction in Waikiki and the City's Kuhio Avenue project already creating considerable congestion, the City should not undertake the proposed Ala Wai Boulevard construction project. There is simply no good reason to waste taxpayer money to eliminate parking and further jam up Waikiki traffic."

The City is currently spending \$19 million of taxpayer money on an ill-received roadway project along Kuhio Avenue. Within the next 12 months, several major private projects will start in Waikiki, including the renovation of both the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center and the International Marketplace, construction of the Outrigger Beachwalk, expansion of the Hilton Hawaiian Village, as well as building of several condominiums. "There is no need for the project with so much other construction going on in Waikiki," stated Councilmember Djou.

The Ala Wai project proposes to eliminate one lane of traffic, take away 60 parking stalls, and cost taxpayers close to \$2.5 million. The administration wants to start Ala Wai construction next month.

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